

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

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AMEMBASSY SEOUL

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR UNGA KS KN GH

SUBJ: KOREA AT UNGA - FELLI REPLY TO SECRETARY

REF: STATE 249538

THERE FOLLOWS THE TEXT OF LETTER DATED 30 OCTOBER 1975 FROM
COMMISSIONER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS FELLI TO THE SECRETARY IN
RESPONSE TO THE SECRETARY'S LETTER CONTAINED IN REFTEL. SIGNED
ORIGINAL BEING FORWARDED S/S. COMMENT SEPTTEL.

BEGIN QUOTE:

DEAR MR. SECRETARY,

1. I AM IN RECEIPT OF YOUR LETTER OF 22ND OCTOBER, 1975,
RELATING TO THE KOREAN ITEM ON THE CURRENT UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY AGENDA, AND HAVE HAD FULL AND FRANK DISCUSSIONS
ON THE ISSUE WITH YOUR ENVOY.

2. NEEDLESS TO SAY THE GOVERNMENT OF GHANA IS VERY CONSCIOUS
OF AMERICA'S UNDERSTANDING OF GHANA'S ASPIRATIONS, AND HAS THUS
VALUED THE CONTRIBUTIONS THAT THE UNITED STATES HAD MADE TO THE
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF OUR COUNTRY. I BELIEVE WE
HAVE OVER THE YEARS RECIPROCATED THIS UNDERSTANDING FULLY, AND
I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT CLOSE COLLABORATION BETWEEN OUR TWO
GOVERNMENTS AND PEOPLES REMAINS AN ESSENTIAL POLICY AND
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OBJECTIVE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL OF

GHANA.

3. AMERICA'S PRE-OCCUPATION WITH SECURITY IN THE KOREAN PENINSULA AND THE FEARS UNDERLINED IN YOUR LETTER ARE WELL UNDERSTOOD AND APPRECIATED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF GHANA. LET ME AT THE OUTSET THEREFORE ASSURE YOU THAT OUR CONDUCT IS GENUINELY MOTIVATED BY A DESIRE FOR PEACE IN THE KOREAN REGION, AS IN OTHER REGIONS OF THE WORLD, AND OUR ACTIONS ARE DIRECTED AT ASSISTING THE REALISATION OF PEACE. WE ARE THEREFORE ONE WITH YOU IN GOALS EVEN IF WE MUST DIFFER WITH YOU NOW AND THEN ON APPROACH.

4. AS YOU ARE AWARE THE DRAFT RESOLUTION ON THE KOREAN ITEM WHICH GHANA HAS CO-SPONSORED AT THE CURRENT SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IS NOT IDENTICAL TO THE RESOLUTION ON THE ISSUE LAST YEAR AND ON WHICH GHANA ABSTAINED. GHANA HAD SOUGHT TO MODERATE THE RESOLUTION LAST YEAR WITHOUT SUCCESS, HENCE THE ABSTENTION. THIS YEAR, HOWEVER, THE ORIGINAL SPONSORS HAVE ENDEAVORED TO MEET THE SPECIFIC OBJECTIONS OF GHANA. AND I MUST STATE THAT OUR OBJECTIONS WERE MADE BECAUSE WE WERE SENSITIVE TO YOUR VIEWS AND THOSE OF LIKE-MINDED STATES.

5. MOREOVER, THE PRESENT ALGERIAN DRAFT RESOLUTION REFLECTS THE LIMA DECLARATION OF NON-ALIGNED FOREIGN MINISTERS TO WHICH GHANA IS COMMITTED. FOR THESE REASONS WE HAVE FELT IN HONOUR-BOUND TO CO-SPONSOR THE DRAFT RESOLUTION.

6. AS I HAVE EXPLAINED TO YOUR ENVOY, GHANA IS A LONG-STANDING AND, WE BELIEVE, A TRUSTED MEMBER OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT, AND IN THIS ROLE WE HAVE ENDEAVOURED TO SERVE, WITH OBJECTIVITY, IMPARTIALITY AND PRAGMATISM NOT ONLY OUR NATIONAL INTERESTS, BUT THOSE OF OUR FRIENDS AND THE CAUSE OF PEACE AND INTERNATIONAL STABILITY. WE HAVE DONE THIS WITHOUT VIOLATING THE PRINCIPLES OF A MOVEMENT WHICH IS IN THE MAIN RESPONSIVE TO THE URGINGS AND WILL OF OUR OWN PEOPLE. THE RESULT, AS WE SEE IT, IS THAT WE HAVE GAINED IN STRENGTH AND CREDIBILITY WITHIN THE MOVEMENT AND IN THE WIDER INTERNATIONAL ARENA, AND THESE GAINS, AS I HAVE EXPLAINED, HAVE BEEN USED, AND CAN ONLY BE USED TO FOSTER WHAT SEEMS TO US THE GENUINE INTERESTS OF OURSELVES, OUR FRIENDS, AND THE CAUSE OF PEACE. SUCH BEING THE CASE, IT IS, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CLEARLY, NO FEASIBLE THAT GHANA SHOULD EITHER VOTE AGAINST A RESOLUTION OF WHICH SHE IS A CO-SPONSORE, OR ABSTAIN ON IT, OR ABSENT HERSELF FROM THE ASSEMBLY DURING THE PROCESS OF VOTING.

7. NEVERTHELESS IN VIEW OF THE SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH WE VIEW YOUR REPRESENTATIONS; IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT GHANA APPROVES OF CERTAIN ELEMENTS IN OTHER DRAFT RESOLUTIONS ON THE ITEM

BEFORE THE ASSEMBLY; AND BECAUSE OUR SOLE PURPOSE IS TO ASSIST THE SEARCH FOR PEACE IN THE KOREAN PENINSULA, WHICH WE SINCERELY BELIEVE COULD COME ABOUT ONLY BY THE CONVERSION OF THE PRESENT ARMISTICE AGREEMENT INTO A PERMANENT PEACE SETTLEMENT, THE WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN TROOPS FROM THE AREA, AND THE NEGOTIATED AND PEACEFUL RE-UNIFICATION OF KOREA IN RESPONSE TO THE PUBLICLY EXPRESSED DESIRES OF THE KOREAN PEOPLE, I HAVE INSTRUCTED OUR DELEGATION AT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO SPARE NO EFFORT TO WORK FOR A MEANINGFUL COMPROMISE DRAFT RESOLUTION WHICH WOULD OVERCOME SOME OF THE FEARS TO WHICH YOU HAVE GIVEN EXPRESSION, AND AT THE SAME TIME MEET THE PRINCIPAL OBJECTIVES OF OUR FELLOW SPONSORS OF THE ALGERIAN DRAFT RESOLUTION.

8. I TRUST THAT IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO ACHIEVE SUCH A COMPROMISE, AND IN THIS CONNECTION I AM SURE THAT YOUR DELEGATION WILL DEMONSTRATE THEIR USUAL CAPACITY FOR STATESMANSHIP, TOGETHER WITH A SOUND APPRECIATION OF THE MOTIVATIONS AND FEELINGS OF THE GREAT MAJORITY OF THE STATES REPRESENTED AT THE UNITED NATIONS.

9. SHOULD THIS EFFORT TO REACH A COMPROMISE PROVE FUTILE, THE GHANA DELEGATION WILL, OBVIOUSLY, BE BOUND TO VOTE AFFIRMATIVELY FOR THE ALGERIAN DRAFT RESOLUTION. NEVERTHELESS, FROM OUR GENERAL GOODWILL TOWARDS THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND OUT OF SYMPATHY FOR SOME OF YOUR PRE-OCCUPATIONS, THE GHANA DELEGATION HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED, IN THE EVENT, NOT TO VOTE AGAINST THE UNITED STATES DRAFT RESOLUTION, BUT TO ABSTAIN ON IT.

WARM REGARDS.

COMMISSIONER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS (COLONEL R.J.A. FELLI)
END QUOTE.

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